there are many milingerers. The legal remedy for evasion, 202
whenever detected, is simply the extension of the term of [447]
duty. There are, to be sure, many Hords of middle and [586]
upper-class families who, on the completion of their
secondary schooling, select the most unpleasant and honorable
career of an army officer.

For the people of the district the corral, with its [349]
important complement of officials, its bustling sound during [46]
hours of business, its guards, and its four-colored cantge [208]
fluttering above from a flagpole, is the physical symbol of
governmental authority. "The corral prefers this," or "the
corral would never permit that," is heard in popular speech.
But for many it is a place, neither of prestige nor yet
of oppression, but of sorrow, for in hordes drawn up
before its gateway depart the groups of recruits and
prisoners bound for Erkil, and the people know that many
will never return. There is always a number of women to [153]
be found outside the corral, old and young, mothers and wives,
dressed in the stained, dark cloth of the countryside,
and often one will raise her voice in a low-pitched lament
or fall into tears. An enterprising Westerner has set up [205]
an antique camera at one corner, and the prisoner and
recruit often exchange photographs with their wives, the
poorly-made prints that are so often brought out during the
long months of separation.

To one side of the corral, on one of the two streets 344
leading up into the town, is a small, square brick building 232
654

floor, although that of Lali Khan is located in a second story. This room, better decorated and entertained than others, is used for the entertainment of male visitors to the house and a more family gathering. The furniture may consist of benches and stools, or, in the older style, covered mattresses on the floor on which the guests sit cross-legged. The floors are usually covered with carpets, the best the house can afford, and decorations may include a few photographs, and, in their season, bowls of flowers. A number of prized possessions, such as a set of glass tumblers or a clock are on display. Photographs, taken on special occasions over the years, are kept with great care and displayed to visitors with pride, particularly if the owner has been portrayed with one or more notables, officials or chieftains. Several families have old box cameras and some film is available with the general merchants, but developing and printing must be done in Erbil. In lieu of banquets, not regularly held, visitors are served a variety of things one after the other of which the staples are tea, coffee, or sherbet. That coffee is not served in the Christmas has been noticed, but it appears, as well as hot chocolate (prepared, however, in the same way as coffee, with water rather than milk), with some frequency in the guest-rooms. These refreshments are brought in rapid succession. In the afternoon of Lali Khan tea, water, coffee, fresh grape juice, more tea, and sherbet, as well as apricots and mulberries, were served in a matter of about fifteen minutes.